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COUNTRY

Anglo-Egyptian SuCONFIDENTIAT

DATE DISTR. 23 August 1948

SUBJECT

PLACE ACQUIRED Indications of Communist Activity

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- 1. During the last week in June 1948 a small number of pamphlets were distributed in the three towns of Khartoum, Khartoum North and Omdurman. The pamphlets urged the population to oppose forcibly the setting-up of the Legislative Assembly and Advisory Council proposed by the government. They were signed "The Sudanese Movement for National Liberation," which has previously distributed similar pamphlets. There were two arrests which implicated the National Liberation organization with a climilar Communist organization in Egypt. Those arrested were Gasan 'Abd-al-Rahman, 35 year-old merchaut, and Mahammad al-Gawad Hasan Samag, a 20 year-old student of the School of Science at Gordon Memorial College.
- 2. The two arrested youths admitted that the leaflets were imported from Egypt by way of Shallal and Wadi Halfa, and that their organization stood for destruction of the imperialist institutions in the Sudan, staging of demonstrations everywhere, and active resistance to bourgeois exploitation. The police drew the conclusion that organized Communist sources inspired the movement and that there is a connection between Sudanese and Egyptian Communists.
- 3. On the night of 28 June there were secret police raids on many houses in the three towns suspected of harboring Communist activities. The raids were based on indications furnished by the two arrested men. The result of these raids was inconclusive, but some evidence of the existence of a secret society was brought to light.
- 4. Communism is still in its infancy in the Sudan, largely because of the energetic measures adopted by the government, including prompt arrests, close supervision of all societies, travel restrictions, and the efficient control of all elements. Sudanese groups favoring unity with Egypt are obstacles to the government, however, as they insist that the suspicions of the government are false and that the police are using Communism as a screen for persecuting and subduing that section of the people that does not blindly support the latest governmental reforms.

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